Bronze no Tenshi
Volume 3 Chapter 31

Barcarolle
http://barcarolle.wordpress.com

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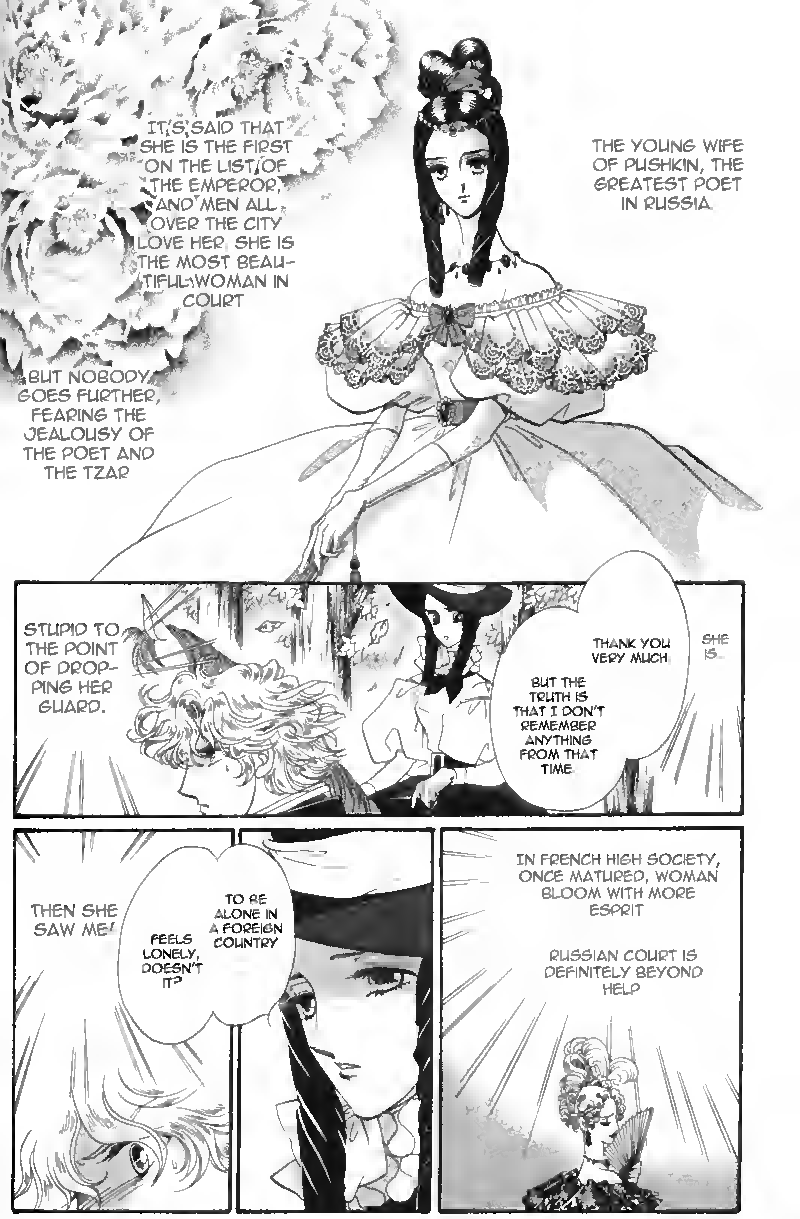
VOL.11 The Tactics of an Angel

BARON
D'ANTHES IS
CRYING..

SPLASH
IT'S MRS. PUSHKIN!
WHY IS SHE ALWAYS WATCHING ME?
HIDES
WAS I SEEN?

clop
clop
GO SOMEWHERE ELSE!
HURRY UP!
!
SHE COULD HAVE SEEN ME FROM OVER THERE
THERE IS NO WAY...
DON'T EVER SHOW ANYONE YOUR WEAKNESS
BARON D'ANTHES
DON'T DROP YOUR GUARD!
GEORGES D'ANTHES!
YES, YOU ARE!
AM I DISTURBING YOU?

ERRR...
WELL...
GOOD DAY.
IT'S REALLY SUCH A SPLENDID AFTER-NOON,
SOLI-TUDE...?
NOT AT ALL, MRS. PUSH-KIN.
YOU ALSO CAME TO ENJOY...
THE LANDS-CAPE AND SOLITUDE, DIDN'T YOU?
I HAVEN'T THANKED YOU YET
FOR HELPING ME WHEN I WAS SUFFERING FROM A MISCA-RRIAGE HALF A YEAR AGO
MRS. PUSHKIN.
NO!! I DECIDED TO MAKE HIS ACQUAINTANCE FOR EKATERINA'S SAKE
BARON!


IT'S SAID THAT SHE IS THE FIRST ON THE LIST OF THE EMPEROR, AND MEN ALL OVER THE CITY LOVE HER. SHE IS THE MOST BEAUTIFUL WOMAN IN COURT
THE YOUNG WIFE OF PUSHKIN, THE GREATEST POET IN RUSSIA.
BUT NOBODY GOES FURTHER, FEARING THE JEALOUSY OF THE POET AND THE TZAR
STUPID TO THE POINT OF DROPPING HER GUARD.
THANK YOU VERY MUCH.
SHE IS...
BUT THE TRUTH IS THAT I DON'T REMEMBER ANYTHING FROM THAT TIME.
THEN SHE SAW ME!
FEELS LONELY, DOESN'T IT?
TO BE ALONE IN A FOREIGN COUNTRY
IN FRENCH HIGH SOCIETY, ONCE MATURED, WOMAN BLOOM WITH MORE ESPRIT
RUSSIAN COURT IS DEFINITELY BEYOND HELP

GIMME A BREAK!!
ALTHOUGH SHE IS AN EMPTY-HEADED BEAUTY, SHE NOTICED
MRS PUSHKIN,
YOU ARE VERY PRETTY
THE TZAR'S FAVOURITE BEAUTY
HOWEVER,
LOOKS CAN BE DECEIVING.
YOUR HUSBAND IS A REVOLUTIONARY OF RUSSIAN LITERATURE
HOW ABOUT TEACHING ME
THE ART OF CONVERSATION TO ATTRACT A LONELY BACHELOR?
I SEE

IN YOUR CASE TOO
LOOKS CAN BE DECEIVING.
WHAT A JERK!!

AT LAST,
I DON'T WANT THE TZAR TO GET ANGRY WITH ME.
IT'S THE WORST OPPONENT TO BE RELATED TO.
HOW MEAN!
IT'S NOT APPROPRIATE AT ALL!
TH...THIS HORSE DOESN'T STOP!
THEY TOLD ME IT'S NECESSARY IN HIGH SOCIETY SO I HAD TO GO, BUT RIDING A HORSE...
IT'S IMPOSSIBLE FOR ME!!
AND EKATERINA
NATALIA!!
CALM DOWN! RAISE YOUR BODY
YOU WERE MAKING IT GO FASTER LIKE THAT..
YOU HAVE TO PULL THE BRIDLES TO YOUR WAIST..

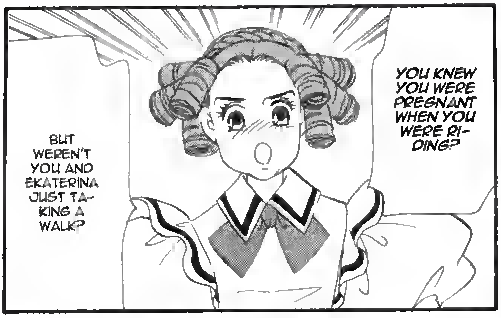
SLOWLY
UH
NA
WHAT'S WRONG, NATALIA?
I DON'T FEEL WELL
I'VE HAD IT BEFORE.
THIS FEELING
NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT...
NATALIA!?
ARE YOU PREGNANT AGAIN?
EH.
Dizzy

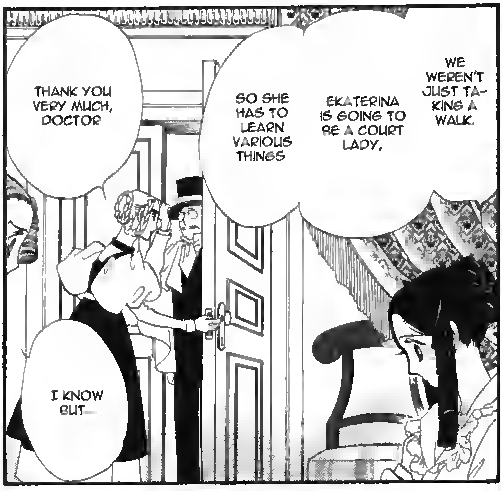
CATCH
MR. D'ANTHES?
I'M OK.
I'M NOT GOING TO FALL.
LET ME GET OFF.

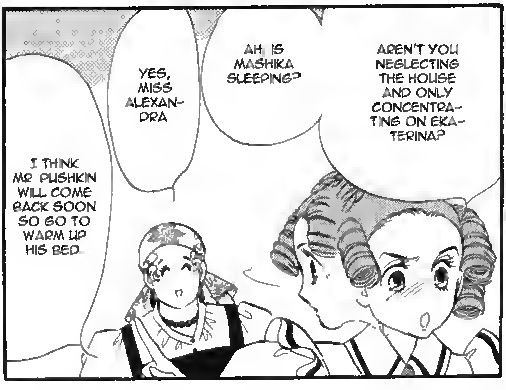
DON'T MISUNDERSTAND THIS.
TROUBLESOME...
IF YOU HAVE A MISCARRIAGE IN FRONT OF ME AGAIN IT WILL BE TROUBLESOME
GOODBYE.

HE ONLY SAYS CRUEL THINGS!
EH...
WHEN DID I SAY THAT I LIKE BARON D'ANTHES?
YOU TRIED TO GET CLOSER TO HIM BECAUSE OF THAT
DON'T DO SUCH SELFISH THINGS!
NATALIA, YOU...
DON'T DO SUCH UNNE-CESSARY THINGS!
I SEE
HE IS UNEXPEC-TEDLY MEAN
YOU WOULDN'T LOVE HIM
I'M SORR
I WAS SURE THAT
REAL-LY?
HE IS YOUNGER THAN ME
IT'S IMPOS-SIBLE!
NAT A-LIA!!
YOU ARE REALLY STUPID!

AAH! I'M SO STUPID!
WHAT AM I TALKING ABOUT?
OH NO!
DIDN'T HE HELP YOU JUST NOW?
ACTIONS SPEAK LOUDER THAN WORDS
BARON D'ANTHES IS NOT MEAN!
IT SEEMS HE IS ON MY MIND
THERE IS NO DOUBT
I MUST DO SOMETHING ..
EKATERINA
I WON'T TELL ANYBODY ELSE
THERE IS NO REASON FOR ME TO BUILD UP MY HOPES
AND I HAVEN'T CONGRATULATED YOU
MAYBE YOU ARE PREGNANT,
EKATERINA.


BUT WEREN'T YOU AND EKATERINA JUST TAKING A WALK?
YOU KNEW YOU WERE PREGNANT WHEN YOU WERE RIDING?


THANK YOU VERY MUCH, DOCTOR
I KNOW BUT...
SO SHE HAS TO LEARN VARIOUS THINGS
EKATERINA IS GOING TO BE A COURT LADY.
WE WEREN'T JUST TAKING A WALK.


I THINK MR. PUSHKIN WILL COME BACK SOON SO GO TO WARM UP HIS BED.
YES, MISS ALEXANDRA
AH, IS MASHIKA SLEEPING?
AREN'T YOU NEGLECTING THE HOUSE AND ONLY CONCENTRATING ON EKATERINA?

ALWAYS KINDLY.
HE UNDERSTOOD THE DISADVANTAGES OF BEING THE ELDEST DAUGHTER.
I HAVE TO DO IT FOR EKATERINA'S HAPPINESS.

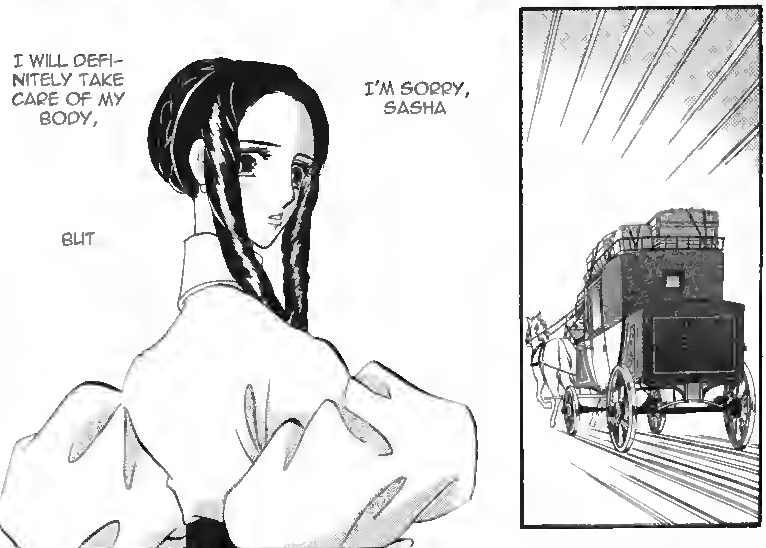
MR. PUSHKIN...
DOESN'T MAKE ANY PROGRESS AT SAINT PETERSBURG SO HE IS THINKING ABOUT SECLUDING HIMSELF IN THE COUNTRYSIDE.
HE SEEMS TO BE VERY SAD.
SASHA?
I ALSO THINK ABOUT YOU I'M GRATEFUL TO YOU...
FOR TAKING CARE OF THE HOUSE.
YOU DON'T HAVE TO THANK ME
DO YOU EVEN THINK ABOUT MR PUSHKIN?
SINCE YOU HAVE EVERYTHING PEOPLE ENVY,
YOU DON'T PAY ATTENTION TO OTHER PEOPLE'S TROUBLES.
I'M NO GOOD
TODAY, THREE PEOPLE GOT MAD AT ME.
I'M NOT SMART.
NATALIA?

I DON'T HAVE ANY MERITS
YOU ARE THE MOTHER OF TWO CHILDREN, WHO WILL SOON BE THREE,
AND YOU ARE VERY BEAUTIFUL.
I SEEM TO BE STUPID
I'M A USELESS WIFE THAT CANNOT HELP YOU WITH YOUR WORK.
NOW THAT THE FAMILY IS GOING TO INCREASE I WON'T BE ABLE TO MOVE FREELY AGAIN
AND YOU WANT TO WORK IN THE COUNTRY-SIDE
I'M HAPPY THANKS TO YOUR EXIS-TENCE
WITHOUT YOU MY LIFE WAS MISE-RABLE
NOW I'M A HAPPY HUSBAND WHO HAS A BIG AND PRECIOUS FAMILY
"HAPPY" YOU SAY...

"Looks can be deceiving"
EH
D'ANTHES
GEORGES D'ANTHES
W-WHAT?
IT'S STRANGE
HE WAS THERE TO HELP YOU AGAIN
IT MUST BE FATE
IT'S JUST A COINCIDENCE
IT'S THE FIRST TIME
THAT I LIE TO SASHA
NEXT WEEK I WILL GO TO BOLDINO
I'M NOT GOING FOR SETTLING THE TROUBLE OF MANAGING THE TERRITORY
BUT I PROMISED EKATERINA.

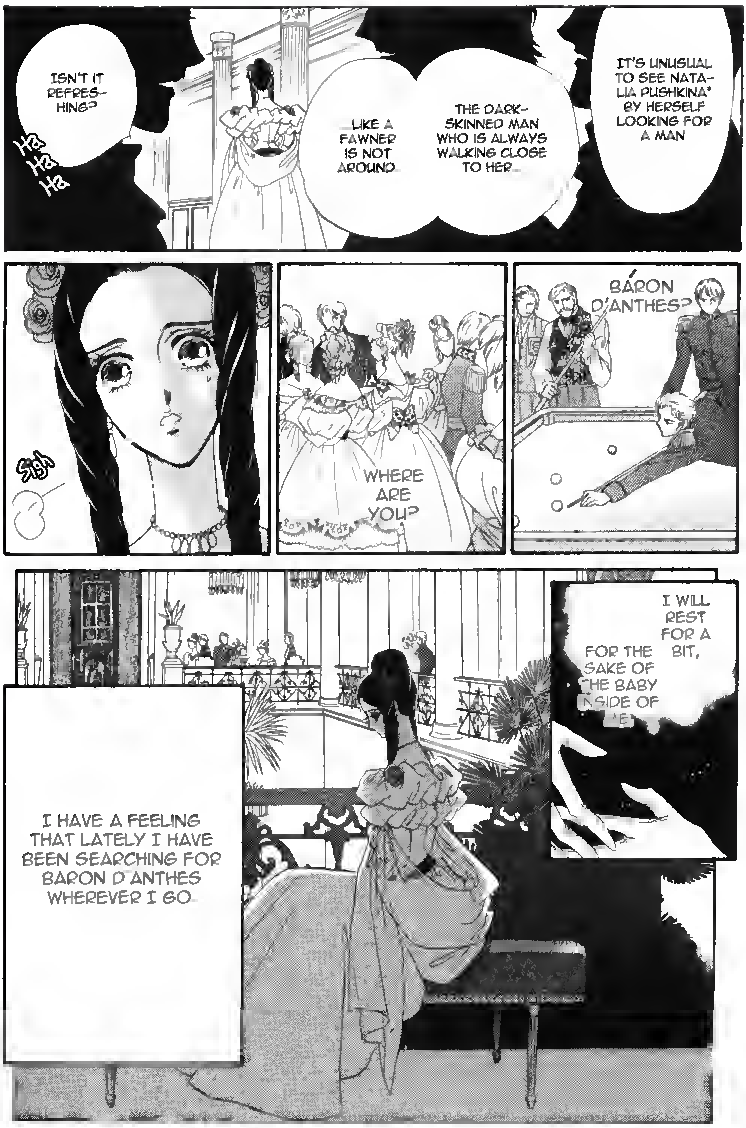
I CAN LEAVE PEACE-FULLY
BECAUSE YOUR SIS-TERS ARE STAYING AT HOME
THIS TIME IT'S IMPOR-TANT THAT YOU REALLY REST
I WON'T RIDE HOR-SES NOR DANCE
I PRO-MISE YOU

OK, SASHA...
I WILL BUY A PRESENT FOR YOU
ALEXAN-DRA
Papa
HAVE A SAFE TRIP
I LEAVE NATALIA IN YOUR HANDS, EKATE-RINA


I WILL DEFI-NITELY TAKE CARE OF MY BODY,
BUT
I'M SORRY, SASHA

IT'S GOR-GEOUS
THE THREE OF US TOGETHER AT AN EVENING PARTY SEEMS LIKE A DREAM
I DON'T HAVE A CHOICE BUT TO GO TO THE EVENING PARTY
ALEXAN-DRA, STOP LOOKING AROUND RESTLES-SLY
YOU GIVE THE FEELING OF NOT BEING FAMI-LIAR WITH THIS
MR D'ANTHES IS COMING TO THIS PARTY?
WHO KNOWS
A LOT OF IMPERIAL GUARD OFFI-CERS CAME BUT
THEY ARE TOO BIG, RIGHT?
BUT THAT'S THE TRUTH
EKATE-RINA, THOSE RIBBONS LOOK WEIRD

WHAT HAPPENED TO YOUR HEAD?
OH, EKATERINA.
AUNT ZAGRYAZHSKAYA!
THERE IS NO NEED, NATALIA
I WILL SEARCH FOR HIM
D'ANTHES?
I THINK HE CAME
GOOD EVENING, MRS PUSHKIN
TONIGHT YOU ARE ESPECIALLY BEAUTIFUL.
I HAPPENED TO SEE D'ANTHES IN THE SAME ROOM A WHILE AGO
IT SEEMS THAT YOUR FASHION-CONSCIOUS SIDE IS FINALLY AWAKE
THAT'S GOOD NEWS.
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT, EKATERINA.
I'M GOING HOME.
I HAVE TO INTRODUCE BARON D'ANTHES TO EKATERINA.


IT'S UNUSUAL TO SEE NATALIA PUSHKINA* BY HERSELF LOOKING FOR A MAN
THE DARK-SKINNED MAN WHO IS ALWAYS WALKING CLOSE TO HER...
...LIKE A FAWNER IS NOT AROUND
ISN'T IT REFRESHING?
Ha Ha Ha
BARON D'ANTHES?
WHERE ARE YOU?
Sigh
I WILL REST FOR A BIT, FOR THE SAKE OF THE BABY INSIDE OF ME.
I HAVE A FEELING THAT LATELY I HAVE BEEN SEARCHING FOR BARON D'ANTHES WHEREVER I GO.

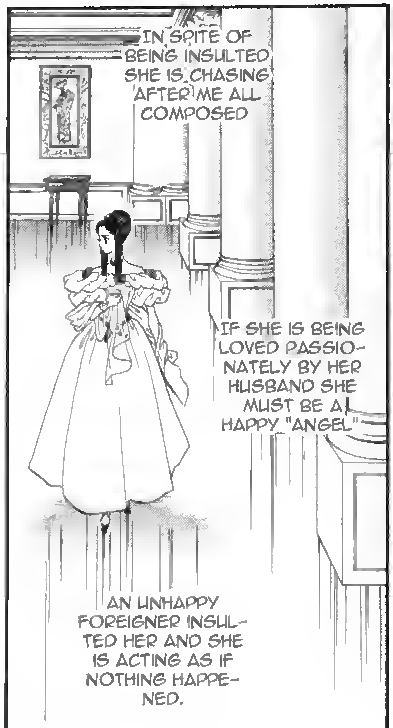
*LOOK AT THE NOTE AT THE END OF THE CHAPTER.

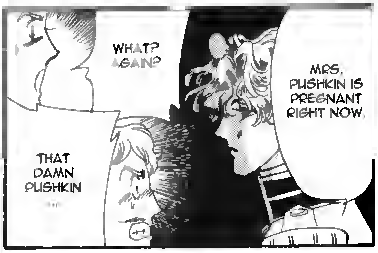
I WONDER WHAT KIND OF FEELING FALLING IN LOVE IS
EKATERINA SWINGS FROM JOY TO SORROW BY TRIVIAL THINGS AND LOOKS LIKE SHE CAN'T REST
THAT'S THE WOMAN RUMORED TO BE WITH D'ANTHES
MRS. LUZHKOV
HE LIKES THAT TYPE OF WOMAN

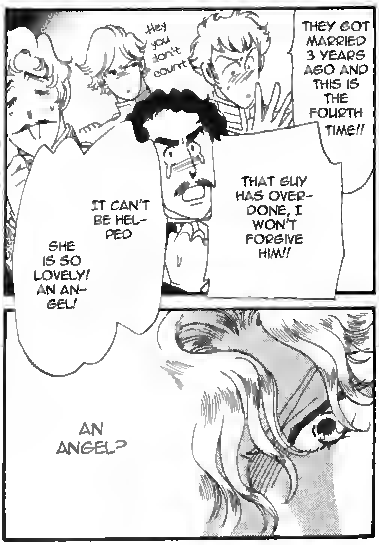
FILL IT MORE.
MORE.
HA HA HA
YOU HAVEN'T DANCED, D'ANTHES.
EVEN THOUGH THERE ARE A LOT OF WOMEN WAITING FOR YOU.
I CAN'T TRUST A BEAUTY WHO WANTS TO DANCE WITH ME.
WHO KNOWS WHAT HER CHARACTER'S LIKE.
STOP ALREADY, D'ANTHES
EVEN THOUGH WE PASSED EACH OTHER A WHILE AGO HER FACE REMAINED IMPASSIVE.
MRS LUZHKOV
I WAS COMPLETELY IGNORED
CHEER UP, D'ANTHES.
A REAL BEAUTY IS WALKING AROUND LOOKING FOR YOU.
SHUT UP

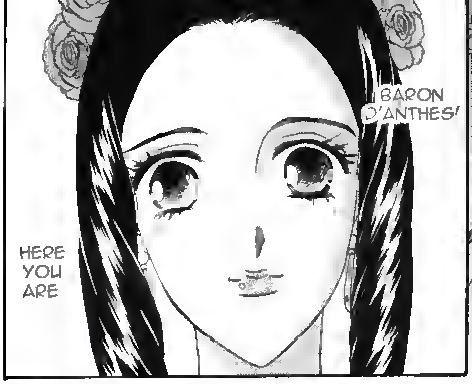
IT IS RUMOURED THAT SHE SUFFERED THE MISCARRIAGE BECAUSE PUSHKIN HIT HER
THAT COUPLE MUST BE OVER
THE VIRTUOUS, OVERPROTECTED WIFE?
THAT'S A BIG LIE

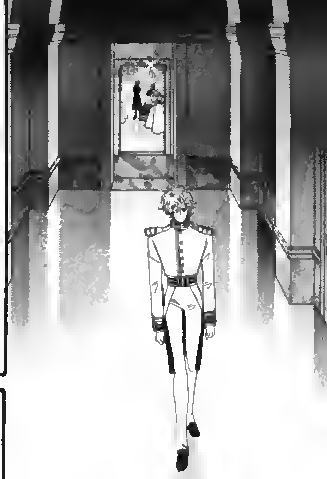
Ugh
IT'S MRS PUSHKIN

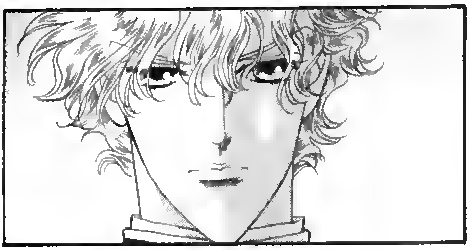

IN SPITE OF BEING INSULTED, SHE IS CHASING AFTER ME ALL COMPOSED
IF SHE IS BEING LOVED PASSIONATELY BY HER HUSBAND SHE MUST BE A HAPPY "ANGEL"
AN UNHAPPY FOREIGNER INSULTED HER AND SHE IS ACTING AS IF NOTHING HAPPENED.

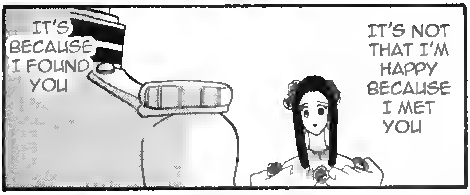

WHAT? AGAIN?
MRS. PUSHKIN IS PREGNANT RIGHT NOW
THAT DAMN PUSHKIN

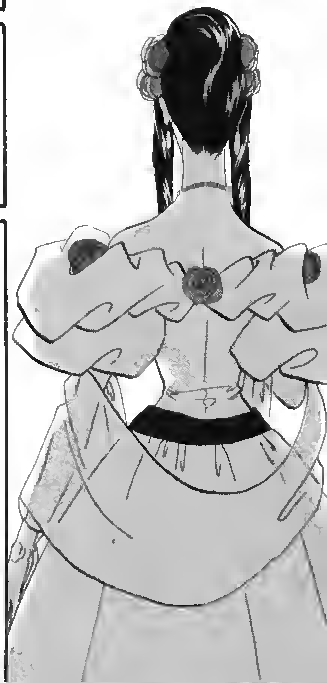

Hey you don't count
THEY GOT MARRIED 3 YEARS AGO AND THIS IS THE FOURTH TIME!!
THAT GUY HAS OVERDONE, I WON'T FORGIVE HIM!!
IT CAN'T BE HELPED
SHE IS SO LOVELY! AN ANGEL!
AN ANGEL?

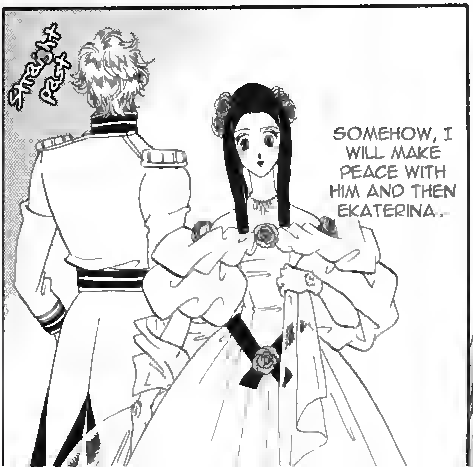

BARON D'ANTHES!
HERE YOU ARE






IT'S BECAUSE I FOUND YOU
IT'S NOT THAT I'M HAPPY BECAUSE I MET YOU




SOMEHOW, I WILL MAKE PEACE WITH HIM AND THEN EKATERINA.

BARON D'ANTHES!
HE IGNORED ME
LET S ENTER THIS ROOM.
click
SO YOU WERE SEARCHING FOR ME
I'M SORRY FOR THE OTHER DAY
PLEASE, FORGIVE ME,
BARON D'ANTHES?
PEOPLE CAN SEE US

IT'S FOR EKATERINA'S SAKE
I WOULD LIKE
TO APOLOGISE FOR MY DISCOURTESY
I ONLY WANTED TO MAKE YOUR ACQUAINTANCE
PLEASE, DON'T BE ANGRY
DESPITE YOUR SEVERE WORDS,
I REALLY THINK YOU ARE A NICE PERSON.
PLEASE, TELL ME THAT YOU FORGIVE ME

BUT THERE ARE VARIOUS THINGS I DON'T UNDERSTAND
NOW THIS CANNOT BE SETTLED WITH SUPERFICIAL WORDS.
FOR YOUR BEHAVIOUR,
I CAN'T THINK OTHER THAN THAT YOU ARE INTERESTED IN ME.
DO YOU WANT TO MAKE A LAUGHINGS-TOCK OF ME BECAUSE I WAS REJEC-TED BY A WOMAN?
THAT'S ...
TOTALLY WRONG!
THEN,
IF YOU KISS ME,
I WILL BELIEVE IN YOUR WORDS
EH?
SO AHEAD,
ANYWHERE YOU LIKE IS FINE

BANG
!
SO AS I THOUGHT, THIS MAN...
I CAN'T.

BECAUSE I...
WANT TO BE YOUR FRIEND.
THEN WHY?
IT'S THE TRUTH!
Seriously?
ESPECIALLY WITH WOMEN.
I DON'T WANT TO MAKE FRIENDS,
WHY?
THE CLOSEST FRIENDSHIP SURPASSES EVEN LOVE
THAT SOUNDS LIKE A PHRASE YOU READ IN A BOOK
PERSONALITY, HE SAYS...
T-THAT YOU ARE ME..IN?
THEN, ARE YOU SAYING YOU WANT TO BE MY FRIEND EVEN AFTER FINDING OUT MY PERSONALITY?

I
HARDLY READ ANY BOOKS,
BECAUSE MY MOTHER FORBADE ME TO DO IT.
THIS REPLY SOUNDS TRUER
MY HUSBAND
I STARTED TO UNDERSTAND FRIENDSHIP WITH PUSHKIN
WE ARE NOT BLOOD RELATED LIKE PARENTS OR SIBLINGS,
BUT IT'S PRECIOUS AND PURER
ARE YOU SERIOUS?
YES!
DON'T TELL ME,
YOU HAVE NEVER FALLEN IN LOVE?

HEY
DON'T TELL ME THAT REALLY ...
I FELL IN LOVE ...
WITH MY HUSBAND WHEN WE GOT MARRIED.
I HAVE FINALLY UNDERSTOOD YOUR MYSTERIOUS REASONS
YOU ARE QUITE DIFFERENT FROM YOUR OUTWARD APPEARANCE
SHE IS LIKE A CHILD.
PLEASE, STOP TEASING ME AS YOU PLEASE.
Gayle

NATALIA!!
YES, OF COURSE!
ARE WE FRIENDS?
YOU CAME AT THE RIGHT MOMENT,
BARON D'ANTHES IS HERE
!
EKATE-RINA!!
the reports were taken off
I WAS LOOKING FOR YOU
OUR AUNT AND ALEXANDRA ARE OVER THERE—
NATALIA, THIS IS SO SUDDEN—
my hair is—
BARON D'ANTHES,
YOU HAVE MET HER BEFORE, THIS IS MY SISTER EKATERINA
...
EKATERINA HAS BEEN LIVING WITH ME IN MY HOUSE IN ST PETER-SBURG SINCE LAST MONTH

HA HA HA
SO THAT WAS IT.
A PIANO PERFORMANCE WILL START IN THE SALON SOON
PLEASE, THIS WAY
WOULD YOU LIKE TO GO WITH ME?
EH
ME?
OOOOH
MISS EKATERINA
IS THAT ACCEPTABLE?
WITH SOMEONE LIKE ME
OF COURSE!
EH, EH??

I CAN'T BELIEVE IT WORKED OUT SO WELL.
BUT I'M SO GLAD!
MRS PUSHKIN
THEY MAKE A SPLENDID MATCH!!
YOU DEFINI-TELY HAVE TO LISTEN TO IT.
GLINKA* HAS COMPOSED THE MUSIC FOR A POEM BY PUSHKIN
THANK YOU VERY MUCH
*MIKHAIL GLINKA, A RUSSIAN COMPOSER

WAIT A MOMENT.
OH, THERE ARE NOT ENOUGH CHAIRS.
I SUPPOSE HE TURNED OUT TO BE AN UNEXPECTEDLY GOOD PERSON.
EXCUSE ME FOR A MOMENT, PLEASE.
AH.
ALEXANDRA AND MY AUNT.
THAT WAS YOUR GOAL.
TO MAKE YOUR SISTER'S LOVE COME TRUE.
UNEXPECTING
BARON D'ANTHES
MRS PUSHKIN
SWIVER

SO I'M GOING TO IGNORE YOUR FEELINGS TOO
I SAW THROUGH YOU
GO AWAY, PLEASE
YOU ABSOLUTELY IGNORED MY FEELINGS
I WANT TO SEE YOUR REAL SELF
THE ONE PUSHKIN NOR EVEN YOURSELF HAVE SEEN YET
I WANT TO SEE THAT

Shudder
MR D'ANTHES I REGRET MY ABSENCE
IT'S OK
AH YES
NATALIA CAN I SIT NEXT TO YOU?
Shake Shake
IT'S GOING TO START

I remember a wonderful moment
Like a spirit of the purest beauty.
As before my eyes you appeared,
Like a vision, fleeting, momentary.
That voice rang out so tenderly,
I dreamed of that lovely face of yours.
In the torture of hopeless melancholy,
In the bustle of the world's noisy hours,
The years flew quickly. The storm's blast
Scattered the dreams of former times,
And I forgot your tender voice,
And the features of your heavenly face.

In remoteness, in gloomy isolation,

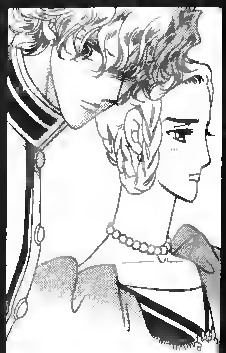
My days dragged quietly, nothing

No godlike face, no inspiration,

No tears, no life, no love, no you.

Then to my soul an awakening came,

Like a spirit of the purest beauty.



And there again your face appeared,

Like a vision, fleeting, momentary,

And my heart beat with a rapture new,
And for its sake arose again
A godlike face, an inspiration,
And life, and tears, and love,

and you.
IT WAS WONDER-FUL!
ESPECIA-LLY MR PUSHKIN'S LYRICS
I'M DEEPLY MOVED
AND YOU, NATALIA?
Clap
Clap
Clap

AS IF SOME-THING ...
NATALIA ...
THIS IS THE FIRST TIME I HAVE SEEN YOU SO MOVED BY A SONG OR POEM,
YOU ARE CRYING TOO.
SOMEHOW
I'M SCARED.
COULD CHANGE

Bronze no Tenshi
Volume 3 Chapter 12

Barcarolle
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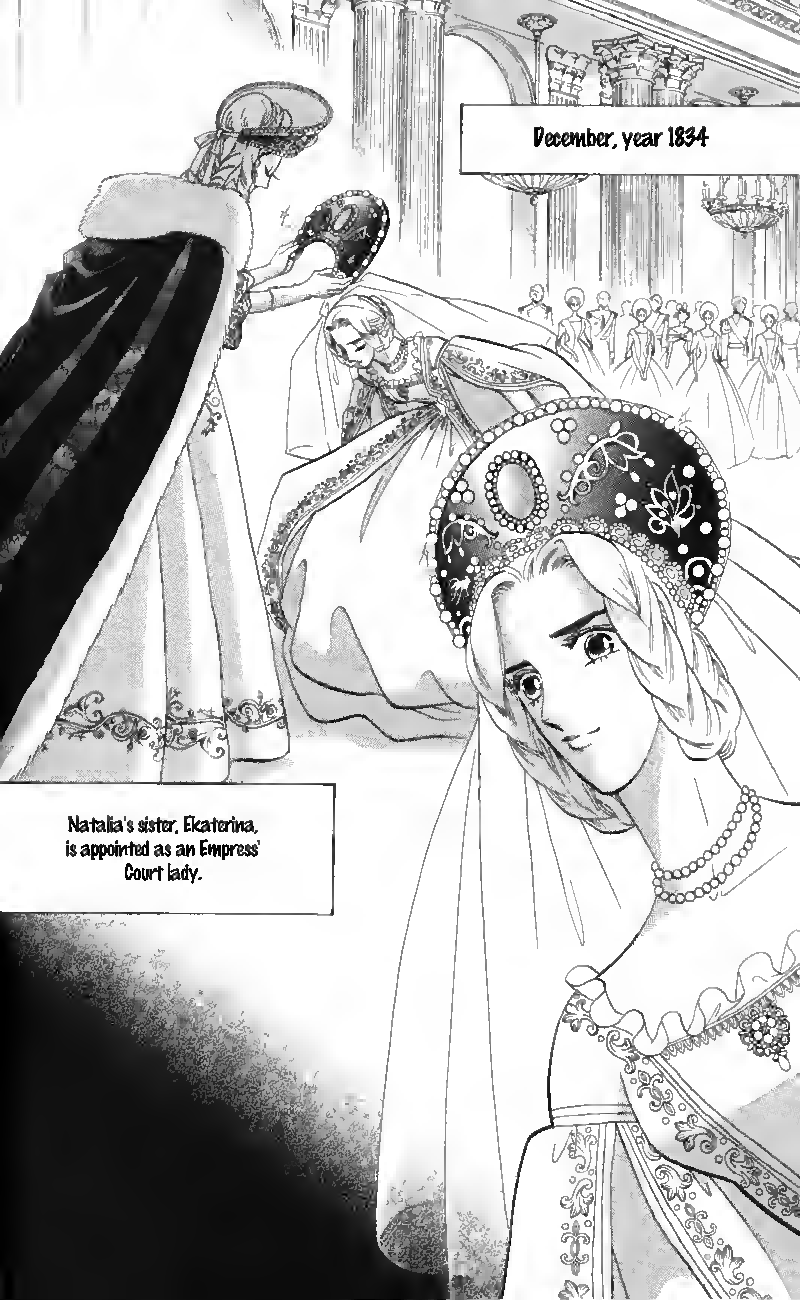
VOL.12 The Price of Happiness


December, year 1834
Natalia's sister, Ekaterina, is appointed as an Empress' Court lady.

IT'S ALSO THANKS TO YOUR GREAT EFFORTS
CONGRATU-LATIONS, NATALIA!
IT'S ALL THANKS TO YOU, AUNT!
EKATERINA IS NOW A COURT LADY LIKE YOU

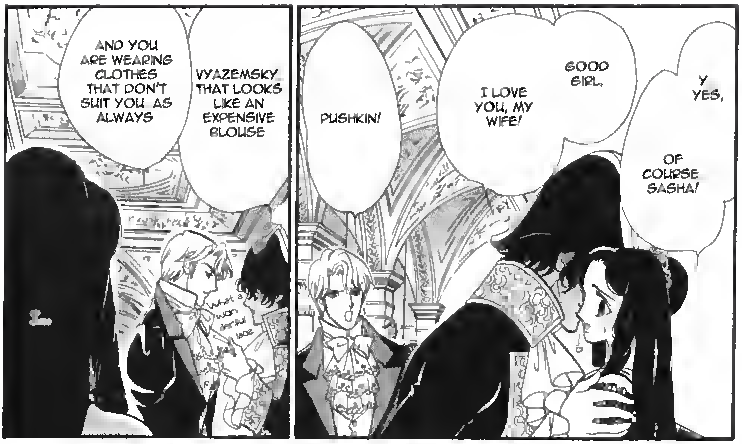
That December, Pushkin's work "The History of the Pugachev Rebellion" was published / it was greeted with severe critics and low sales.

LATELY, SASHA
HAS BEEN IN A BAD MOOD
SASHA!
I FEEL EVEN WORSE NOW
I UNDERSTAND THAT HIS WORK IS UNSUCCESS-FUL AND HE IS HAUNTED BY DEBTS...
BUT THIS TIME IT WAS MONEY TO COVER THE COSTS OF PREPARA-TIONS FOR EKATERINA,
AND AUNT ZASPYAZHS-KAYA LENT IT TOO US
GEORGES D'ANTHES...
I WANT TO SEE YOUR REAL SELF.
I WANT TO SEE THAT

LOOK HOW AMUSED HE IS.
AS IF HE WAS GOING TO BURST INTO LAUGHTER.
SO ILL-MANNERED.
CONGRATULATIONS, MISS EKATERINA.
BARON D'ANTHES.
HE IS COMING THIS WAY!!
THANK YOU VERY MUCH.
AH, THIS IS MISS SOFIA FROM THE BUTURLIN FAMILY.
WE WERE APPOINTED AS EMPRESS' COURT LADIES TOGETHER.

I SEE
THE IMPERIAL GUARDS ARE THE ELITE OF THE ARMY
IF YOU DON'T MIND PLEASE COME WITH THE OFFICERS OF THE IMPERIAL GUARDS
HE IS GLANCING AT ME
AFTER THIS, EK...TERINA AND I WILL HOLD AN EVENING PARTY CELEBRATION AT MY HOUSE.
I SEE
HE IS NOT EVEN LISTENING PROPERLY
HE IS NOT A GOOD PERSON
NO, EKATERINA
YOU ARE BEING SO OBVIOUS
IF YOU COME.
ERM...A LOT OF WOMEN WOULD BE VERY HAPPY ...
PLEASE, YOU HAVE TO COME.
BUT I CAN'T ESCAPE
THIS IS DANGEROUS

I'M SORRY
I SAID TOO MUCH
ALTHOUGH TONIGHT WAS A CELEBRATION
MY BAD
SASHA
WITH THIS I GOT A WEIGHT OFF YOUR SHOULDERS
THERE IS NO MORE NEED TO RUN AROUND THE BALL,
NATALIA
MM?
THIS YEAR, I HAVEN'T BEEN INSPIRED
BUT I M SURE THAT IN THE NEXT ONE I WILL WRITE SOME GOOD WORKS
FOR THE SAKE OF THE CHILD WHO WILL BE BORN IN FIVE MONTHS FROM NOW,
STAY AT HOME OBEDIENTLY

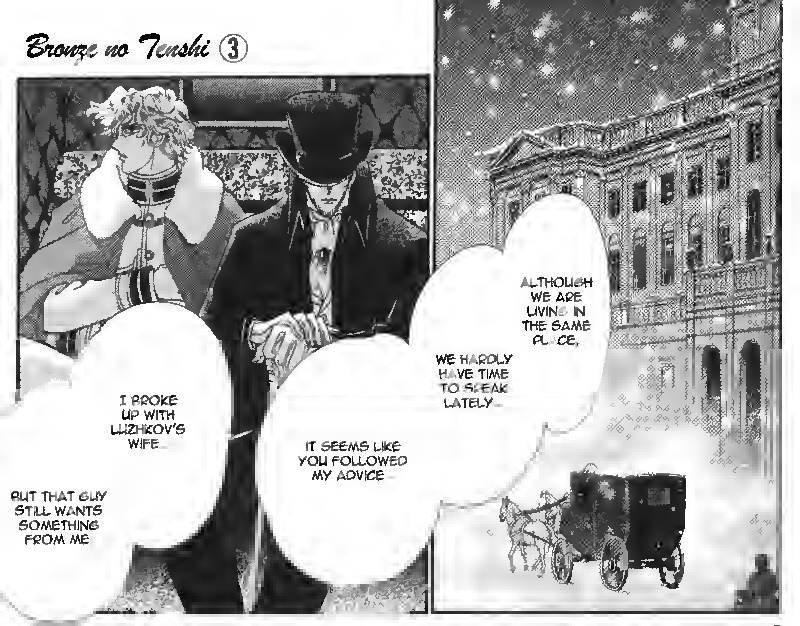

AND YOU ARE WEARING CLOTHES THAT DON'T SUIT YOU, AS ALWAYS
VYAZEMSKY THAT LOOKS LIKE AN EXPENSIVE BLOUSE
PUSHKIN!
I LOVE YOU, MY WIFE!
GOOD GIRL.
Y YES,
OF COURSE SASHA!

ALTHOUGH I AVOIDED MEETING HIM UNTIL NOW...
WHY

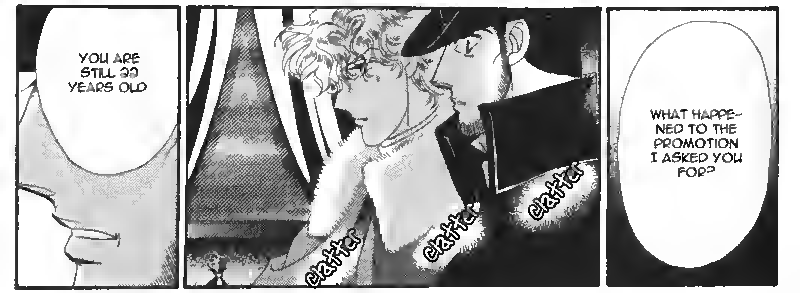
I FEEL EMOTIO-NALLY DRAINED

GET ON, GET ON!
LET'S GO TO THE BUTURLIN'S HOUSE!
MADAME, PLEASE COME INSIDE THE COACH.
THERE ISN'T ROOM FOR MORE!
WE ARE GOING NOW! D'ANTHES.
YOU HAVE TO COME.
SECOND LIEUTE-NANT D'AN-THES!!
CAPTAIN LUZHKOV
THANKS TO YOU.
IT'S YOUR FAULT THAT EVERYTHING IS A MESS...

"CAPTAIN",
THE RANK YOUR PATRON OFFERED ME IN EXCHANGE FOR PRIDE DON'T MAKE ME HAPPY.
I WONDER WHAT HAPPINESS IS
ME, MY WIFE, MY HOUSE, ANYTHING AND EVERYTHING,
EH?
YOU ARE COMPLETELY DRUNK,
WATCH YOUR STEPS CAPTAIN
SOMEONE COULD
CAPTAIN CALM DOWN
HEY, TEACH ME
YOU ARE A SEXY GUY, YOU MUST KNOW HAPPINESS.
AH, BUT THE DUTCH AMBASSADOR HAS POWER,
HE IS WILLING TO DO ANYTHING FOR THE SAKE OF YOUR PROMOTION, THAT MUST BE HAPPINESS
CAPTAIN!!
GET ON


ALTHOUGH WE ARE LIVING IN THE SAME PLACE,
WE HARDLY HAVE TIME TO SPEAK LATELY...
I BROKE UP WITH LUZHKOV'S WIFE...
IT SEEMS LIKE YOU FOLLOWED MY ADVICE...
BUT THAT GUY STILL WANTS SOMETHING FROM ME

I HARDLY SAW HER AT THE EVENING PARTY...
I WONDER WHAT HAPPENED...
AS IF I WOULD KNOW
HOWEVER, THE WAY HE WAS SPEAKING...


YOU ARE STILL 30 YEARS OLD
clatter
clatter
clatter
WHAT HAPPENED TO THE PROMOTION I ASKED YOU FOR?

WINTERS IN THIS COUNTRY ARE TOO LONG
CER-TAINLY... THAT'S WHAT I THINK TOO
DIDN'T THE CAPTAIN TELL YOU THAT STATUS DOESN'T MAKE PEOPLE HAPPY?
WHY ARE YOU SO IMPATIENT?
YOU WILL HAVE TO WAIT ANOTHER YEAR UNTIL YOU CAN WEAR THAT MILITARY UNIFORM
TOO LONG AND TOO COLD!!
FOR ALMOST HALF A YEAR I'M SURROUN-DED BY ICE,
JUST THIN-KING THAT I HAVE TO WAIT PATIEN-TLY FOR THE SPRING TO COME.
IT MAKES ME SICK.
SO I WANT A PROMO-TION!!

A PRO-MOTION?
TO RETURN TO FRANCE SOON?
THEN FIRST HAVE YOU TRIED TO DO YOUR DUTY SERIOUSLY?
I'M AFRAID NOT.
DO YOU EXPECT THAT I, A FRENCH-MAN, SERVE THE RUSSIAN TSAR WITH LOYALTY?
I DON'T LIKE NICHO-LAS...
BARON!
YOUR WORDS ARE...
AS SELFISH AS A CHILD'S!
!
AT

I ALSO MADE THAT STATEMENT TO THE TSAR
BUT THE TSAR
YOU CANNOT BE PROMOTED IF YOU MAKE USE OF BEING A FOREIGNER LIKE THIS
He should throw away some of his French pride
If he has any interest in being useful to me
IF YOU SERIOUSLY WANT TO BE PROMOTED
I NEED COMPENSATION

THERE IS NO NEED TO GO TO AN EVENING PARTY
COME BACK HOME WITH ME.
DON'T GO TO RUTHLIN'S HOUSE...

THE ONE BEING AN EGOTIST
IS YOU.

I ADORE YOU...
AS IF YOU WERE MY "FATHER"

Futurlin's house...
HEY, CRICKET",
IS IT OK THAT YOU DON'T JOIN THE CELEBRATION?
IT DOESN'T DO ME ANY GOOD TO EXPERIENCE THE STORM OF DIPLOMATIC FLATTERY.
MY MIND IS FULL OF OTHER THINGS RIGHT NOW.
IT'S ABOUT THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION WHO SEVERELY CRITICIZED YOUR "HISTORY OF THE PUGACHEV REBELLION"?
"CRICKET WAS PUSHKIN'S NICKNAME IN THE LYCEUM.

I CAN LOAN YOU MORE MONEY
YOU ARE DOING PLENTY ENOUGH FOR ME
I COULD DEVOTE MYSELF TO WRITING...
THAT WAY, EVERYTHING WOULD BE WONDERFUL.
AH, IF I COULD GET 100,000 ROUBLES FROM SOMEWHERE MY DEBTS WOULD END
I ONLY WISH IT WERE THAT
THE PROBLEM IS THE LOW SALES
I HAVE BEEN LIVING INDEBTED FOR TWO YEARS ALREADY AND I DON'T KNOW HOW TO GET OUT OF IT
MY ANNUAL INCOME IS OF 15,000 ROUBLES BUT THE LIVING EXPENSES ARE OF 30,000.
I HAVE TO GIVE THE SMALL QUANTITY OF ADVANCED INCOME OF MY LANDS TO MY BROTHERS.
FURTHERMORE, IN MAY, I WILL HAVE ANOTHER BABY.
THAT'S IT! I HAVE A GOOD IDEA!
WHAT ABOUT ASKING THE TSAR FOR THE MONEY I OWE?
THERE ARE A LOT OF MY WORKS THAT I CANNOT PUBLISH BECAUSE OF HIS CENSORSHIP
PUSHKIN, YOU...
I CAN'T KEEP LIVING LIKE THIS!
OR ELSE, I WILL TELL HIM THAT I'M GOING TO STAY IN THE VILLAGE FOR 3 OR 4 YEARS

HAVE YOU NOTICED?
YOU HAVE BEEN TALKING ONLY ABOUT MONEY
IT'S SO STRANGE
ARE YOU OK?
THIS IS NOT THE PUSHKIN I KNOW!!
AM I WRONG, CRICKET!!
MY YOUTHFUL DAYS ARE OVER.

Ah
ALEXANDRA
I was thinking about Mr. Pushkin
AH
WHERE IS NATALIA?
WHO KNOWS
WHAT ARE YOU DOING WHILE CARRYING THAT?
IT'S SHAMEFUL
ARE YOU LOOKING FOR SOMEONE?
NO
TONIGHT I'M BUSY
look around
SHE IS NOT DOING IT
NEVERTHELESS, WHERE IS NATALIA?
I HAVE THE FAMILY I HAVE ALWAYS WISHED FOR
THIS IS THE COMPENSATION I HAVE TO PAY
MR. PUSHKIN
...

walking
on frost
SHE IS NEGLECTING MR. PUSHKIN WHEN HE IS IN SUCH A SITUATION
NATALIA NIKOLAEVNA,
PLEASE, COME HERE
SO IT'S JUST THE TWO OF US

I BEG YOU,
LISTEN TO WHAT I HAVE TO SAY..
WITHOUT GETTING MAD.
I HAVE TO CONFESS THAT...
I HAVE FALLEN IN LOVE WITH YOU FROM THE MOMENT I SAW YOU
BUT

IT'S 12 O'CLOCK, ALREADY MIDNIGHT, RIGHT?
YOUNG MASTER
SOMEONE WILL COME AT ANY TIME TO PUT ME TO BED BUT
P!!
LET ME GO! I HAVEN'T FINISHED MY CONFESSION YET!
YOU CAN'T STAY UP LATE.
YOU ARE A CHILD

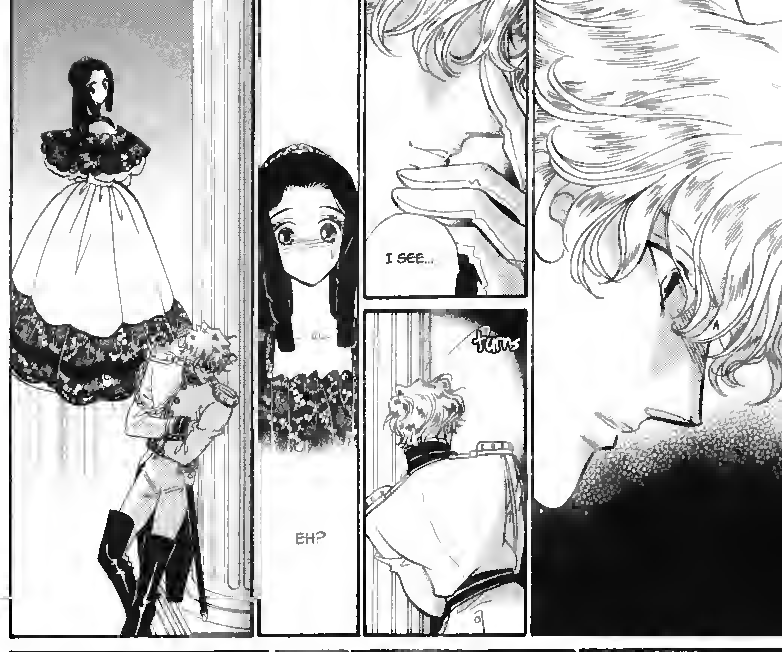
IN 10 YEARS FROM NOW THIS BOY WILL BE THE LEGITIMATE HEIR OF THE BUTUR-LIN FAMILY
!
BUT THE MORE THE TEARS FALL, THE MORE YOU LAUGH, HOW CRUEL YOU ARE.
YOU BITE YOUR LIPS,
DIG YOUR NAILS,
Let me go! I want to be with my love!
giggle
BARON D'ANTHES
I WAS WALKING IN THE GARDEN
TO SOBER UP
FROM THE BALCONY,
THE WINDOW WAS CARE-LESSLY OPEN
WHY HAVEN'T YOU ENTERED THROUGH THE DOOR?
WHERE DID YOU COME FROM.
LOOKING LIKE THAT?

WHILE I WAS AT IT
I SAW YOUR SHAPE THROUGH THE WINDOW
THE COLD AIR WAS PIERCING RIGHT THROUGH
SEEMING TO PURIFY MY BODY.
I THOUGH YOU WERE BEAUTIFUL LIKE A STATUE OF THE VIRGIN MARY AND THE CHILD

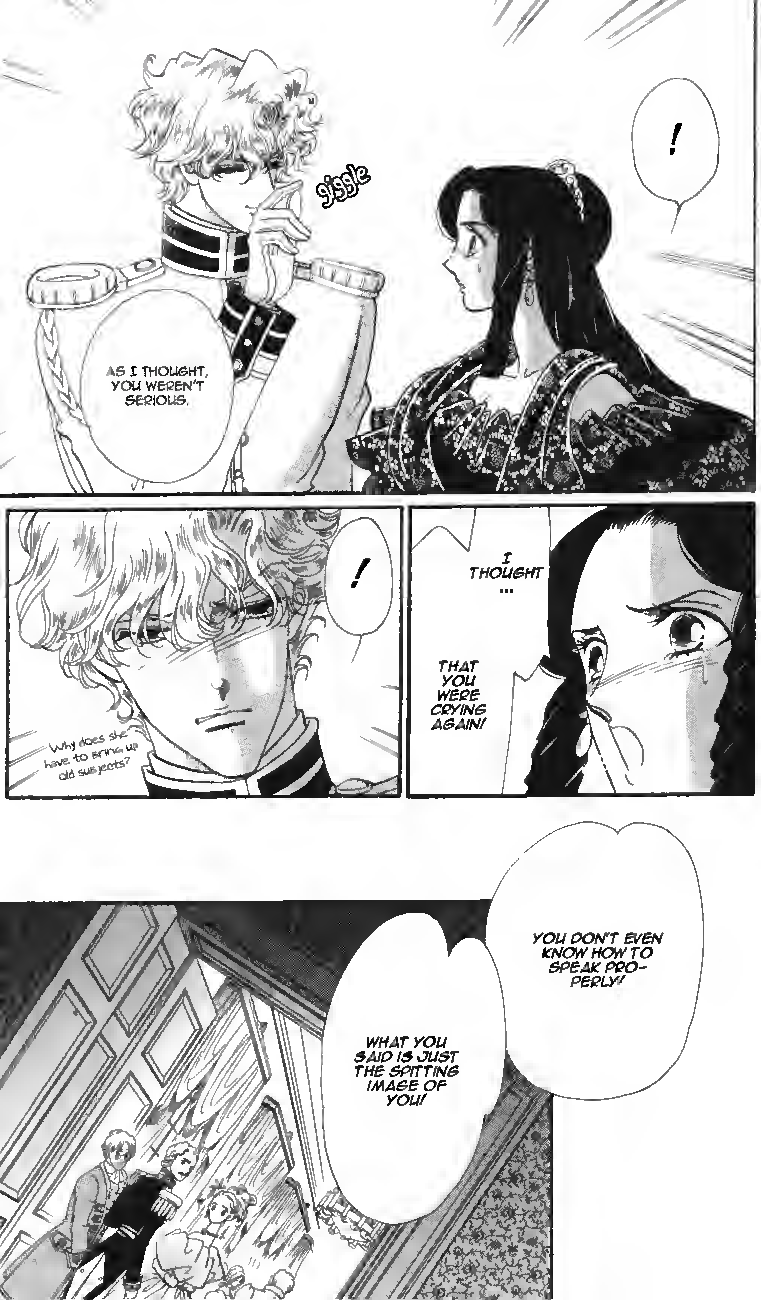
I CAN'T TAKE WHAT HE SAYS TO ME SERIOUSLY...
MRS. PUSHKIN?
NO, THAT'S NOT IT...
YOU MUST BE TIRED OF HEARING THINGS AS "BEAUTIFUL"
AH,
THAT'S SO...
MRS. PUSHKIN
ABSOLUTELY NOT.
I'M SORRY, I CANNOT DANCE NOW
DON'T SAY THAT, PLEASE
NOW THAT I HAVE FINALLY VOICED MY FEELINGS
I'M NOT SAYING THAT I DON'T WANT TO DANCE WITH YOU.
NO
PLEASE, MAY I HAVE A DANCE WITH YOU?
AH
ERM..

Could you release my hand
YOU ARE WRONG, IT'S JUST THAT I'M NOT IN THE MOOD
I CAME FROM THE COUNTRY LAST WEEK,
TOMO-RROW I HAVE TO RETURN
PLEASE, LEAVE A BEAUTI-FUL MEMORY IN MY BORING LIFE.
URGH.
LET'S STOP THIS UNCOUTH BEHAVIOUR HERE,
MON AMI
OH, COULD IT BE YOU DON'T UNDERS-TAND FRENCH?
Thud
YOU SHOULD HAVE CLEARLY SAID "I DON'T WANT TO DANCE"
BUT

IF POSSIBLE, I DIDN'T WANT TO HURT HIM, IT'S JUST OUT OF COURTESY NOT TO REJECT HIM.
IT'S GOOD IF IT CAN BE DONE.
BUT, IN YOUR CASE, YOU ARE NOT EVEN GOOD AT THAT.
TO BE KIND YOU SHOULD HAD SPOKEN CLEARLY.
He tried really hard
POOR HIM
DON'T WORRY.
PERHAPS HE WAS IN THE COUNTRY-SIDE WITH A BOOK BY PUSHKIN IN HIS HANDS
AND HE CAME BECAUSE OF A BORING BET WITH HIS FRIENDS
HE DOESN'T KNOW YOU, HE IS A FAN WHO LOVES THE IDOL CALLED "MRS PUSHKIN"
HE DOESN'T KNOW HOW YOU REALLY ARE, POOR THING
HOW CAN I STAY QUIET ABOUT THIS?
THEN I WILL SAY THIS
Y...YOU ARE PUSHY AND UNKIND.
FROM NOW ON YOU ARE THE ONLY ONE...
WHO I DON'T WANT TO DANCE WITH!


I SEE...
turns
EH?

THERE IS NO WAY.
BUT


giggle
AS I THOUGHT, YOU WEREN'T SERIOUS.
!
!
Why does she have to bring up old subjects?
I THOUGHT ...
THAT YOU WERE CRYING AGAIN!
YOU DON'T EVEN KNOW HOW TO SPEAK PROPERLY!
WHAT YOU SAID IS JUST THE SPITTING IMAGE OF YOU!

IF I KEEP ACTING LIKE THAT...
THEN NEXT TIME, I WON'T COME TO YOUR RESCUE...
I WILL DECLINE IT FROM NOW ON.
I DON'T WANT TO HEAR YOUR VOICE EVER AGAIN
MR D'ANTHES...
EH?
THAT VOICE... IS IT NATALIA?
AH...
THEN, OUR FRIENDSHIP IS OVER?
YES, GOOD-BYE!!
Mrs. Pushkin is quarreling...
MR D'ANTHES!
...

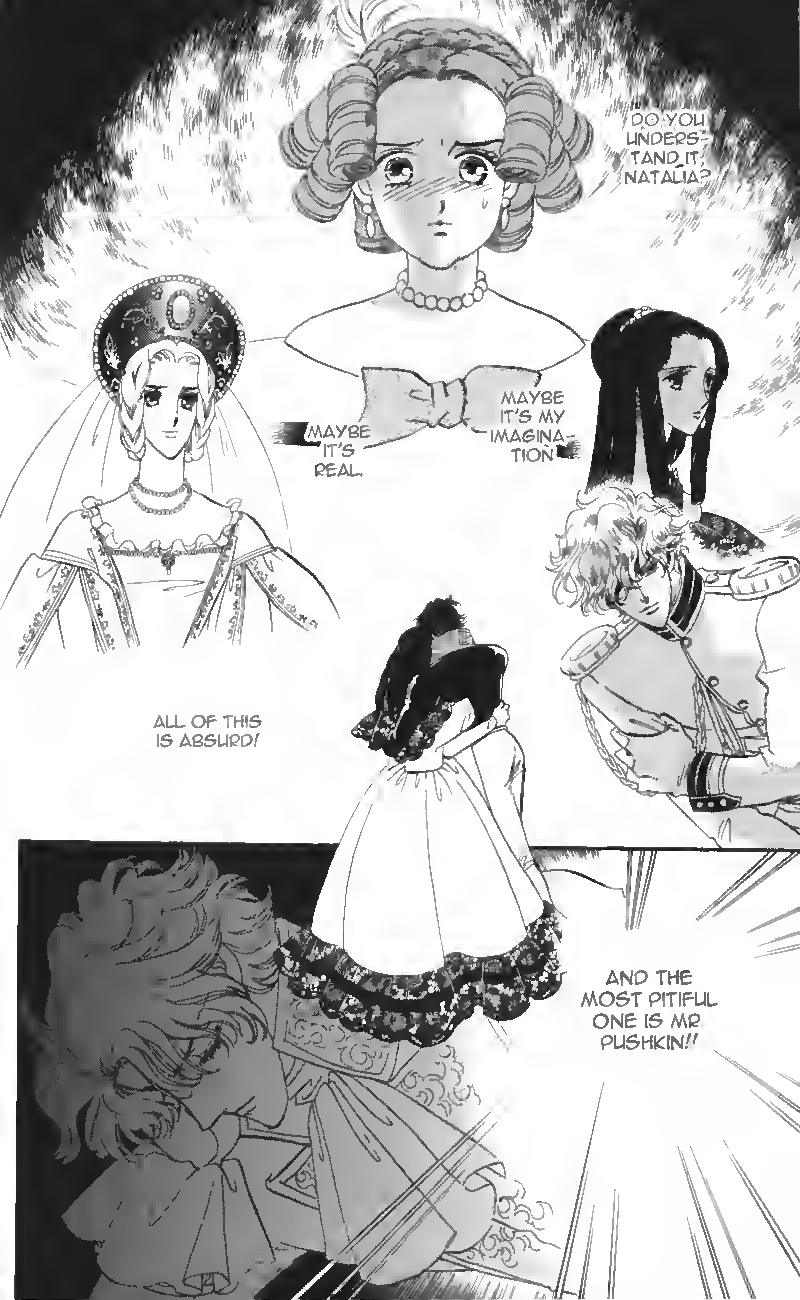
EH?
TAP
TAP
TAP
WHERE WERE YOU?
YOU ARE LATE, D'ANTHES!
PLEASE COME THIS WAY
YOU FINALLY CAME
HA HA HA
IT LOOKS LIKE YOU ARE ON VERY GOOD TERMS WITH MPS PUSHKIN!
FURTHERMORE, SHE WAS RECOMMENDING ME HER HUSBAND'S POETRY ANTHOLOGY IN ORDER TO MASTER RUSSIAN
THEN SHE WAS MAKING COMPLAINTS ABOUT ME NOT TAKING RUSSIA'S WINTER SERIOUSLY
I HAD LOST MY WAY IN THIS HOUSE AND HELPED HER WHEN I FOUND HER IN TROUBLE
NATALIA
HE'S SPEAKING RANDOMLY AGAIN

DOES EKATERINA... LIKE HIM?
Shock
WHO KNOWS
SHE FORBADE ME TO SAY IT
IT MUST BE IT!!
IT'S THE FIRST TIME THAT I'VE SEEN EKATERINA LIKE THAT
HE IS BARON GEORGES D'ANTHES, ISN'T HE?
WHAT KIND OF PERSON IS HE?
WHO KNOWS
AREN'T YOU FRIENDS?
WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT H ?
I HATE HIM

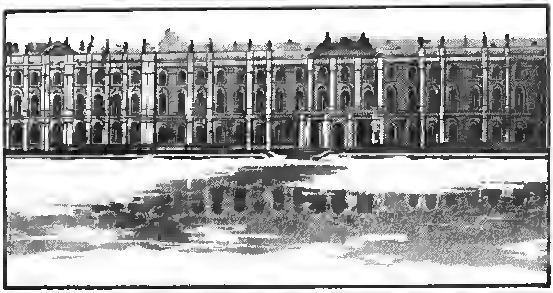
HE IS NOT APPROPPIATE FOR EKATERINA.
HE IS MEAN
WHO KNOWS
I DON'T UNDERSTAND IT VERY WELL.
DO YOU LIKE MR. PUSHKIN?
NATALIA?
I JUST...
HATE HIM
SO I THOUGHT YOU WERE VERY CLOSE
BUT YOU HAVEN'T QUARRELLED WITH A MAN OUTSIDE OUR FAMILY
IN WHICH ASPECT IS HE NOT APPROPRIATE, EXACTLY?
I'M A BIT SURPRISED...
REALLY?
WITH NATALIA'S REACTION

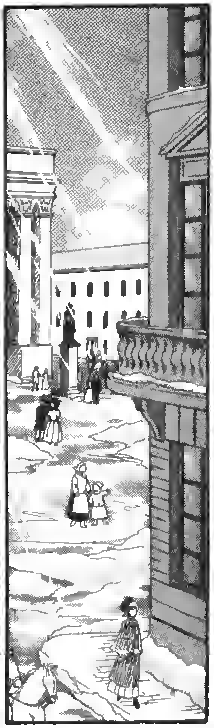
SHE WON'T GIVE ME A CHANCE TO TALK
NATALIA IS SO WEIRD TODAY
TURNS

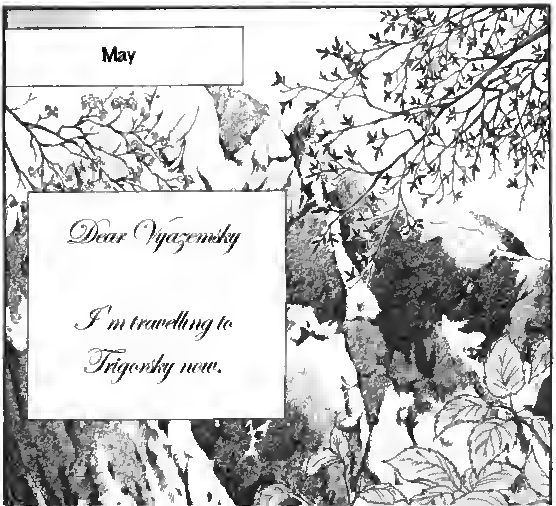
IS NATALIA ALSO CONSCIOUS...
OF BEING STARED AT?
WHY IS BARON D'ANTHES ALWAYS WATCHING ME!?
MR. PUSHKIN.
PLEASE, JOIN IN THE CONVERSATION.
YOUR FANS ARE WAITING FOR YOU.
SASHA!
NATALIA?
I'M NOT FEELING WELL
LET'S GO BACK HOME
SO QUICKLY, PUSHKIN
I WILL TAKE HER SISTERS HOME
I LEAVE IT IN YOUR HANDS VYAZEMSKY
NATALIA IS RUNNING AWAY!

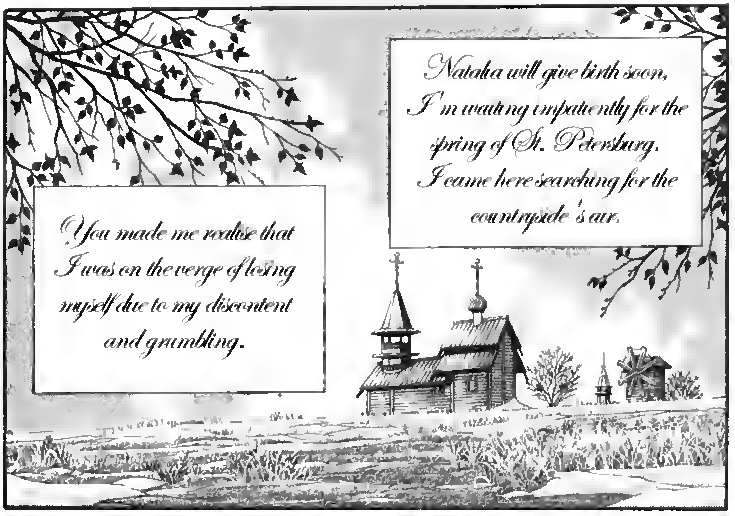

DO YOU UNDERSTAND IT, NATALIA?
MAYBE IT'S REAL.
MAYBE IT'S MY IMAGINATION
ALL OF THIS IS ABSURD!
AND THE MOST PITIFUL ONE IS MR. PUSHKIN!!

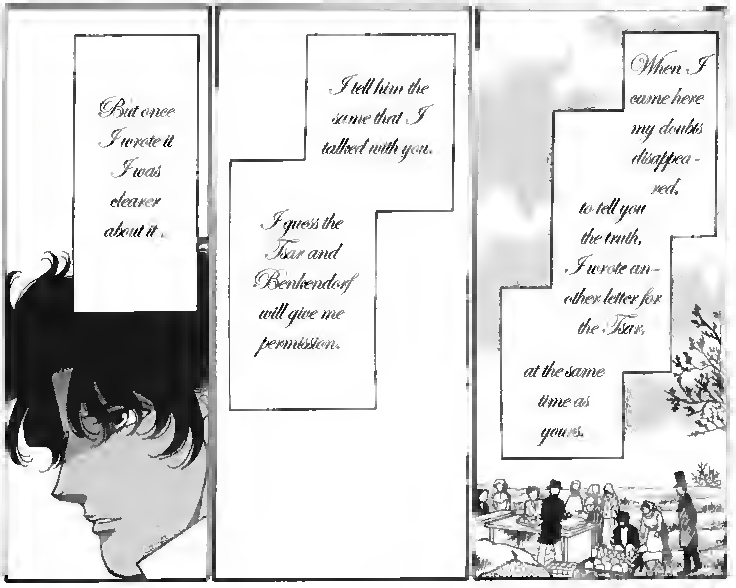
1835

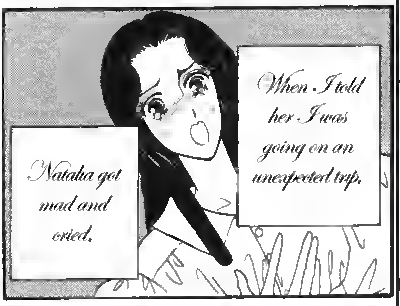





May
Dear Vyazemsky
I'm travelling to
Trigorsky now.


You made me realise that I was on the verge of losing myself due to my discontent and grumbling.
Natalka will give birth soon. I'm waiting impatiently for the spring of St. Petersburg. I came here searching for the countryside's air.


But once I wrote it I was clearer about it.
I tell him the same that I talked with you.
I guess the Tsar and Benkendorf will give me permission.
When I came here my doubts disappeared, to tell you the truth, I wrote another letter for the Tsar, at the same time as yours.


When I told her I was going on an unexpected trip,
Natalia got mad and cried,

Although it's the third time, women's feelings are unstable before giving birth.
And I come here forsaking her.

If I return quickly,
I should be on time for the birth.

When I feel at ease my obsession will fade away in the middle of the glorious breath of spring.
I yearn for Natalia deeply.

MADAME!
THE MASTER IS BACK!
Please, pray for a safe birth as well.

NATA...
ARE YOU OK?
DO YOU STILL HAVE LABOUR PAINS?
WHAT DID THE DOCTOR SAY?
tum
NATALIA...
I'M SORRY
I'M SO SORRY, NATALIA!!
I PROMISE YOU THAT NEXT TIME YOU GET PREGNANT I WON'T GO ON A...
TRIP ...

HE WAS BORN YESTERDAY.
HE IS A TINY BOY, DON'T YOU THINK?
YES, SO TINY,
HE IS VERY CUTE.

The 14th of May

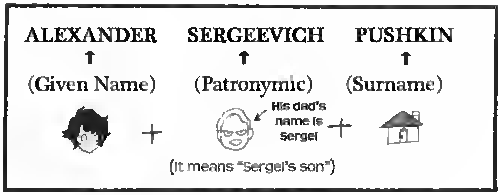
Grigory, their second son, was born

Notes about Russian Names

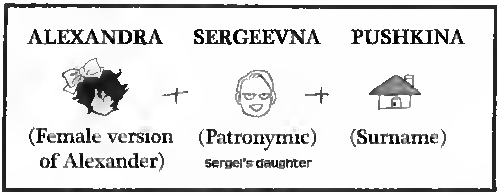
Russian names consist of a **GIVEN NAME**, a **PATRONYMIC** and a **SURNAME**.

PATRONYMICS are constructed from the father's given name. It consist in forming a given name correctly in a way that would mean "son of" or "daughter of" in Russian.

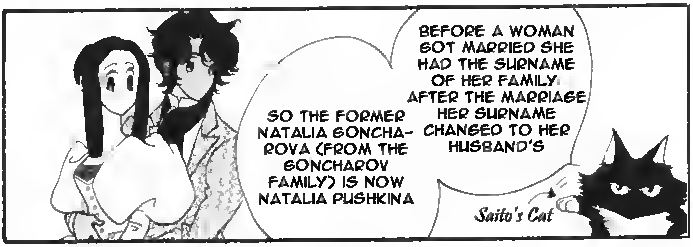
Masculine Patronymics: The basic rule is that if the father's given name ended in "-a" or "-ia," the patronymic ending is "-in" or "-yn," respectively (with the "a" or "ia" dropping out). Otherwise, the patronymic ended in an "-ov" or "-ev."
Ej: Boroda fathers Borodin, Alekse1 fathers Alekseev
Patronymics which end in "-ich" were used by the upper classes or the highest dignitaries. Simply add an "-ich" to the basic patronymic construction.



Feminine Patronymics: -ovna/-evna



SURNAMES must agree with the gender of the subject, therefore all women's surnames ended in "-a" or "-ia" and men's surnames generally did not.
If the surname ends with an "-y" then the female form ends in "-ya" or "-kaya"
Ej: Vyazemsky -> Vyazemskaya


SO THE FORMER NATALIA GONCHAROVA (FROM THE GONCHAROV FAMILY) IS NOW NATALIA PUSHKINA
BEFORE A WOMAN GOT MARRIED SHE HAD THE SURNAME OF HER FAMILY. AFTER THE MARRIAGE HER SURNAME CHANGED TO HER HUSBAND'S
Saito's Cat

DIMINUTIVES: Among family and intimate friends, a diminutive of the first name is normally used, such as Sasha for Alexander, never used with the patronymic.